

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1668

AN ACT

To authorize the Adams Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor former President John Adams and his legacy.

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1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. COMMEMORATIVE WORK TO HONOR JOHN**
2 **ADAMS AND HIS LEGACY.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

4 (1) Few families have contributed as profoundly
5 to the United States as the family that gave the Na-
6 tion its second president, John Adams; its sixth
7 president, John Quincy Adams; first ladies Abigail
8 Smith Adams and Louisa Catherine Johnson
9 Adams; and succeeding generations of statesmen,
10 diplomats, advocates, and authors.

11 (2) John Adams (1735–1826), a lawyer, a
12 statesman, and a patriot, was the author of the Con-
13 stitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
14 (the oldest written constitution still in force), the
15 leader of the Second Continental Congress, a driving
16 force for independence, a negotiator of the Treaty of
17 Paris (which brought the Revolutionary War to an
18 end), the first Vice President, the second President,
19 and an unwavering exponent of freedom of con-
20 science and the rule of law.

21 (3) Abigail Smith Adams (1744–1818) was one
22 of the most remarkable women of her time. Wife of
23 former President John Adams and mother of former
24 President John Quincy Adams, she was an early ad-
25 vocate for the rights of women and served the cause

1 of liberty as a prolific writer, fierce patriot, and
2 staunch abolitionist.

3 (4) John Quincy Adams (1767–1848), the son
4 of John and Abigail Adams, was a distinguished
5 lawyer, legislator, and diplomat and a master of 7
6 languages, who served as Senator, Minister to the
7 Netherlands under President George Washington,
8 Minister to Prussia under the first President Adams,
9 Minister to Great Britain under President James
10 Madison, chief negotiator of the Treaty of Ghent
11 (which ended the War of 1812), Secretary of State
12 under President James Monroe, author of the Mon-
13 roe Doctrine (which declared the Western Hemi-
14 sphere off limits to European imperial expansion),
15 sixth President, and the only former President to be
16 elected to the House of Representatives, where he
17 was known as “Old Man Eloquent” and served with
18 great distinction as a leader in the fight against
19 slavery and a champion of unpopular causes.

20 (5) Louisa Catherine Johnson Adams (1775–
21 1852), the wife of former President John Quincy
22 Adams, was an educated, accomplished woman and
23 the only first lady born outside the United States.
24 Like Abigail Adams, she wrote eloquently on behalf
25 of the rights of women and in opposition to slavery.

1 (6) Charles Francis Adams (1807–1886), the
2 son of John Quincy and Louisa Adams, served 6
3 years in the Massachusetts legislature, was a stead-
4 fast abolitionist who received the Free Soil Party’s
5 vice-presidential nomination in 1848, was elected to
6 his father’s seat in the House of Representatives in
7 1856, and served as ambassador to Great Britain
8 during the Civil War, where his efforts were decisive
9 in preventing the British Government from recog-
10 nizing the independence of the Confederacy.

11 (7) Henry Adams (1838–1918), the son of
12 Charles Francis Adams, was an eminent writer,
13 scholar, historian, and public intellectual, and was
14 the author of many celebrated works, including “De-
15 mocracy”, “The Education of Henry Adams”, and
16 his 9-volume “History of the United States during
17 the Administrations of Jefferson and Madison”.

18 (8) Both individually and collectively, the mem-
19 bers of this illustrious family have enriched the Na-
20 tion through their profound civic consciousness,
21 abiding belief in the perfectibility of the Nation’s de-
22 mocracy, and commitment to service and sacrifice
23 for the common good.

24 (9) Although the Congress has authorized the
25 establishment of commemorative works on Federal

1 lands in the District of Columbia honoring such cele-
2 brated former Presidents as George Washington,
3 Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln, the Na-
4 tional Capital has no comparable memorial to former
5 President John Adams.

6 (10) In recognition of the 200th anniversary of
7 the end of the presidency of John Adams, the time
8 has come to correct this oversight so that future
9 generations of Americans will know and understand
10 the preeminent historical and lasting significance to
11 the Nation of his contributions and those of his fam-
12 ily.

13 (b) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE
14 WORK.—The Adams Memorial Foundation may establish
15 a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of
16 Columbia and its environs to honor former President John
17 Adams, along with his wife Abigail Adams and former
18 President John Quincy Adams, and the family’s legacy of
19 public service.

20 (c) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMO-
21 RATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemora-
22 tive work shall be in accordance with the Commemorative
23 Works Act (40 U.S.C. 1001, et seq.).

24 (d) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS PROHIBITED.—Fed-
25 eral funds may not be used to pay any expense of the es-

1 tablishment of the commemorative work. The Adams Me-
 2 morial Foundation shall be solely responsible for accept-
 3 ance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses
 4 of, the establishment of the commemorative work.

5 (e) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—If, upon payment
 6 of all expenses of the establishment of the commemorative
 7 work (including the maintenance and preservation amount
 8 provided for in section 8(b) of the Commemorative Works
 9 Act (40 U.S.C. 1001, et seq.)), or upon expiration of the
 10 authority for the commemorative work under section 10(b)
 11 of such Act, there remains a balance of funds received for
 12 the establishment of the commemorative work, the Adams
 13 Memorial Foundation shall transmit the amount of the
 14 balance to the Secretary of the Treasury for deposit in
 15 the account provided for in section 8(b)(1) of such Act.

16 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

17 For purposes of this Act, the terms “commemorative
 18 work” and “the District of Columbia and its environs”
 19 have the meanings given to such terms in section 2 of the
 20 Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. 1002).

Passed the House of Representatives June 25, 2001.

Attest:

Clerk.